

3-26-2010

UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 85, No. 40

WKU Student Affairs

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WKU Student Affairs, "UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 85, No. 40" (2010). *WKU Archives Records*. Paper 6756.
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JOSH MAUSER/HERALD
Conrad Reed, a 2008 Western graduate, speaks with Donna Hey, director of Student Academic Services. “I am just looking for better employment,” Reed said. “I am trying to find my niche.”

A fair chance

Job fair aims to help students find employment

By LAUREL WILSON & SHAKIA HARRIS | news@chherald.com

Nearly 15 percent of Western students who graduated in December have yet to find a job.

The Carroll Knicely Conference Center was filled yesterday with students who hope to change that or avoid being part of next year’s statistic.

Representatives from more than 80 organizations waited as eager job seekers arrived at the spring job fair on Thursday afternoon.

Atlanta senior Andrew Varson said he was glad he paid attention to the signs on campus advertising the fair.

This was Varson’s first time attending the fair. Even though his major is business administration, he was content when he stumbled across opportunities as a fire fighter, he said.

Liberia sophomore Shirley Bargblor said she was motivated after meeting with people in

her field who were in executive positions.

She said it gave her a better idea of what she needed to do to be in their positions.

Kevin Thompson, associate manager at the financial advising firm Waddell & Reed, said previous hiring success at the fair has prompted him to keep returning.

“We’re looking for strong workers that also have a willingness to fail and learn from mistakes,” he said.

They also prefer people who have strong communication and interpersonal skills, Thompson said.

Detective Danny Fewless of the Clarksville (Tenn.) Police Department said students were asking increasingly about employee benefits, such as health insurance and retirement plans.

SEE FAIR, PAGE 6

Resume tips

Rebecca Tinker, associate director for employer relations at the Career Services Center, said the most important thing for a resume is to have it proof read by someone else.

“What you think is important and what an employer thinks is important are often two different things,” Tinker said.

Here are some other tips Career Services has for writing resumes:

- Try to keep your resume within one to two pages.
- Lead with your strongest selling points, which is the experience that most closely relates to the job requirements.
- Use action verbs and short statements when talking about your experience.
- List the most recent information first and work backwards.

Source: Materials provided by the Career Services Center

WKU seeks captionists, interpreters

By SHAKIA HARRIS
news@chherald.com

Student Disability Services is “now hiring” to help Western’s deaf and hard of hearing students.

With only five captionists and a select group of American Sign Language interpreters available, employees in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program are sometimes needed in multiple places at one time, captionist Peggy Wallace said.

“Our program is growing, and we’re trying to keep up with it,” she said.

The program currently assists about a dozen students, Wallace said.

Ellen Bonaguro, associate dean of the Academic Advising and Retention Center, said she’s looking to hire a coordinator for the program and will start training five new hires soon so that when the need arises, they can have a group of people on call.

“Sometimes it’s hard to find an interpreter right away, but we do our very best to meet their needs,” she said.

SEE CAPTION, PAGE 3

Colonial Court ready to house 24 scholars

By TESSA DUVALL
news@chherald.com

Hidden just off Western’s campus on Normal Drive is a small neighborhood that Western students and faculty may not even know exists.

This is the newly renovated Colonial Court, a home away from home for scholars visiting Western.

Larry Caillouet, coordinator of the visiting scholars program, said renovations began last fall.

The fully-furnished houses include refinished floors and kitchenware, towels and bedding are also provided, he said.

Scholar-in-Residence Bernie Strenicky lives in Colonial Court and said his stay there has turned him into a “die-hard Topper.”

Strenicky, who has worked in 87 different countries, said that other universities offer dorm space, long-term housing or a hotel room, none of which compare to Colonial Court.

“When you’re away for so long, you need a place to call your own,” he said. “This is certainly one of the reasons I was attracted to come to Western.”

SEE COURT, PAGE 6

Shaker museum offers view of the past

By HANNA DEMIRJIAN
diversions@chherald.com

In the early 1800s, life was hard for many Americans. Houses were small, food was limited and cleanliness was unaffordable. This is why many found a home in the Shaker community.

South Union Shaker Museum displays many old Shaker artifacts that were made on site when Shakers lived there in the 17th century. The Centre Dwelling House, one of the artifacts, is now the museum.

Upon entering the museum, tour guide Susie Wyatt gives a brief history of the Shakers, who referred themselves the United Society of Believers in Christ’s Second Appearing.

The tales and history of the Shakers are not the only stories in the museum. Four stories in the Centre House Dwelling take the visitors around the former living quarters with each room representing one of the former 200 buildings, which were destroyed due to wars and natural disasters.



South Union Shaker Museum

South Union
www.shakermuseum.com

Gems of Kentucky is an occasional series that highlights lesser-known treasures born in the commonwealth from the visions of its natives.

There are nine buildings left and even fewer open to the public.

The museum is known to many travel logs and other museum curators and has been given the credit of best southern exhibits, Wyatt said.

The director, Tommy Hines, has also been deemed one of the best exhibitors.

SEE SHAKER, PAGE 3



CHRIS WILSON/HERALD

Rachel Lethin and her family visit from Oregon and take a self-guided tour of the Shaker Museum in South Union. The museum is located in the building where the Shakers lived from 1807 until 1922. All of the buildings in the Shaker community were built by hand.

BG WKND

The Herald publishes a weekend calendar every Friday. Send your post request by noon Thursday to calendar@chherald.com.

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9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Health & Wellness Center in Greenwood Mall, 2625 Scottsville Road
Easter Bunny at the mall
10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Greenwood Mall, 2625 Scottsville Road
Red Cross Blood Drive
10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Red Cross, 430 Center St.
Western String Chamber Music Recital
11:30 a.m. at the fine arts center
Wine tasting
4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at all Chuck's Liquor locations: 3513 Louisville Road, 386 Three Springs Road, 575 Veterans Memorial Blvd. and 1640 Scottsville Road Suite
Entourage Happy Hour
5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Entourage Tapas Bar and Lounge, 935 College St.
Open Mic Night
6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Cafe Vioni, 352 Great Escape Court Suite A

Live music
6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at The Bistro, 1129 College St.; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Greener Groundz Coffee and Cafe, 871 Broadway Ave.; 9 p.m. at Micki's on Main, 440 E. Main St.; 9 p.m. at Tidball's, 522 Morris Alley; 9 p.m. at Shelley's Place Bar and Grill, 2545 Louisville Road
Western baseball vs. Louisiana-Monroe
6 p.m. at Denes Field
Friday Night Skate
7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at The Skate Box, 506 Three Springs Road
Western theatre and dance performance of "Like You Like It"
7 p.m. at Russell Miller Theatre in the fine arts center
Western Chorale Concert
7:30 p.m. at First Christian Church, 1106 State St.
Karaoke
8 p.m. at Hot Mama's Roadhouse, 306 B Old Morgantown Road
Cosmic Bowling
9:30 p.m. at Southern Lanes, 2710 Scottsville Road

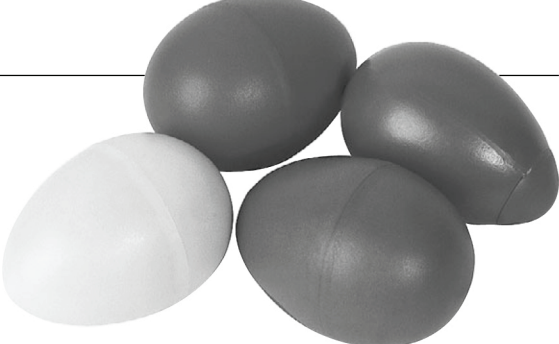
saturday

Total Fitness Connection's Run/Walk for Children
8 a.m. at Basil Griffin Park, 2055 Three Springs Road
Eighth Annual Shamrock Shootout
8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Diddle Arena
Hot Yoga Flow Class
8:45 a.m. at 730 Fairview Ave., Suite C2
Eighth Annual Shamrock Shootout
9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Diddle Arena
The Stars of Spring: A Nine Patching Quilting Workshop
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Kentucky Library and Museum
Easter Bunny at the mall
10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Greenwood Mall, 2625

Scottsville Road
Western softball vs. Louisiana-Lafayette
1 p.m. at the WKU Softball Complex
Western baseball vs. Louisiana-Monroe
3 p.m. at Denes Field
The Magical Music of Walt Disney
3:30 p.m. at the Living Hope Baptist Church, 1805 Westen St.
Entourage Happy Hour
5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Entourage Tapas Bar and Lounge, 935 College St.
Family Game Night
6 p.m. at Greener Groundz Coffee and Cafe, 871 Broadway Ave.

sunday

The World We Create Traveling Exhibit
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Corvette Museum, 350 Corvette Drive
Eighth Annual Shamrock Shootout
4 p.m. at Diddle Arena, championship game
NCAA tournament special
11 a.m. at Samurai Hibachi Grill and Sushi Bar, 2718 Scottsville Road
Western softball vs. Louisiana-Lafayette
12 p.m. at the WKU Softball Complex
Easter Bunny at the mall
12:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Greenwood Mall, 2625 Scottsville Road



Western baseball vs. Louisiana-Monroe
1 p.m. at Denes Field - Red Rascal's Day
Side by Side exhibit
1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Kentucky Building
Easter egg hunt
3 p.m. at Chaney's Dairy Barn, 9191 Nashville Road

CRIME REPORTS Reports

■ Kelsie Price, Louisville, reported on March 24 that her vehicle was scratched while parked in the Adams Street lot. The value of the damage was \$200.
■ James Yates, Wickliffe, reported on March 24 that his cell phone was stolen from the Preston Center on March 23. The value of the theft was \$200.

CLARIFICATION

Information in a March 23 page 3 article about the provost search was unclear. The provost search committee will submit a report to President Gary Ransdell by the end of this week if committee members agree on a recommendation.

The College Heights Herald corrects all confirmed errors that are brought to reporters' or editors' attention. Please call 745-6011 or 745-5044 to report a correction, or e-mail us at editor@chherald.com.

NEWS BRIEF


End to Woods lawsuit against Western

The Kentucky Supreme Court earlier this month denied to review a lawsuit filed by a former Western employee.
The decision brings an end to the litigation brought against Western in 2005 by Ingrid Woods, a former assistant director of the Academic Advising and Retention Center, said Deborah Wilkins, chief of staff and general counsel.
Woods claimed in her suit that she was passed over for the position of AARC director because she's Hispanic.
At that time, the qualifications for the director position were changed to require candidates to have a doctorate degree.
Woods didn't have a doctorate and claimed the change was racially motivated.
Warren Circuit Court ruled in 2008 that there wasn't enough evidence of discrimination, and the Kentucky Court of Appeals upheld that decision in September 2009.
Woods' final chance to reverse the decision was to appeal to the Kentucky Supreme Court to reinstate her case, but since they denied to review her case on March 10, the matter is now closed, Wilkins said.
Woods declined to comment.

WOODS

—Laurel Wilson

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WKU's new Institute for Citizenship and Social Responsibility is
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You are invited to the Western Kentucky University Institute for Citizenship & Social Responsibility (ICSR)
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Refreshments will be provided. If you would like more information, please contact
Terry Shoemaker at terry.shoemaker@wku.edu or 270-745-3217

Officially open Thursday, March 25th

House, Senate negotiating budget

Western faces \$1.1 million budget cut in fiscal year 2011

By LAUREL WILSON
news@chherald.com

Kentucky's two legislative chambers are working out their budget differences.

The Senate passed its version of the budget earlier this week, and now the House and Senate are meeting to come up with a version they can both agree on.

For all of higher education, the difference between the proposals amounts to \$32.8 million with deeper cuts in the Senate, said Brian Wilkerson, spokesman for House Speaker Greg Stumbo, D-Prestonburg.

The Senate proposal calls for a 1.5 percent cut to higher education in the first year of the biennium, which is consistent with the House proposal

passed earlier in March, said Sen. Mike Reynolds, D-Bowling Green.

For Western, that would mean a cut of \$1.1 million in fiscal year 2011, said Ann Mead, vice president for Finance and Administration.

But in the second year, the House and Senate proposals differ in their plan for higher education.

The Senate proposal cuts an additional 1 percent from the first year, Reynolds said.

That would mean a cut of \$1.3 million for Western in fiscal year 2012, Mead said.

But the House proposal restores some of the money that was cut in the first year, amounting to a 0.5 percent increase from 2011, Mead said.

President Gary Ransdell has a clear preference between the proposals.

"I like the House proposal better," Ransdell said.

The Senate proposal has a larger cut and doesn't include any capital construction projects, he said.

Ransdell said he hopes the compromise between the House and Senate will include smaller cuts, capital

construction projects and maintenance and operations costs for new buildings.

But Ransdell said he doesn't think all of those things will happen.

"It's impossible to read what will happen behind those doors," he said.

The House will try to protect education as much as they can, Wilkerson said.

"Our goal is to find common ground," he said.

There are other differences between the two proposals. The House included several items that the Senate didn't, such as a program that would create jobs and improve roads as well as an additional revenue source of taxes on businesses, Wilkerson said.

The House and Senate began meeting Wednesday and hope to have worked out a compromise by the end of next week, he said.

Both chambers have to agree on a budget by mid-April, when the legislative session ends, although there have been times when the General Assembly has left without a budget, Wilkerson said.

SHAKER

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Hines grew up in Bowling Green and started working at the museum as a teenager. After graduating from Western with a degree in music theory, folk studies and historic preservation, he began his career at the museum.

"There is so much information that I've never seen it all," Hines said. "We do archeological digs, and a recent UK excavation has found a cemetery with 420 bodies."

Students do more than just dig for the museum. Interns from Western have worked at the Shaker Museum for the past few years, tour guide Joyce Chesnut said.

"Last summer at least two (interns) helped with inventory, cataloguing and cleaning the artifacts," Chesnut said.

The museum staff proudly accepts their visitors as the Shakers would their guests. There is a bed and breakfast associated with the museum, along with a gift shop that imports herbs from the only remaining Shaker community in Sabbath-day Lake, Maine.

"We attract people from all over the world," Wyatt said. "We don't have as many Western students as expected, but we still get a few in."

This year is the museum's 50th anniversary, and it is hosting different activities to celebrate. Garden markets, luncheons and more are scheduled at the museum throughout this spring and summer.



KELLY LAFFERTY/HERALD

Sparta sophomore Cortney Scott sits in her Introduction to Agriculture Education class with her captionist, Stephanie Johnson. Johnson helps Scott with her class by typing what the teacher says. Johnson has been a captionist at Western for three years.

CAPTION

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

The voluntary program is funded by a federal grant that comes from the state, Bonaguro said.

Captionist Karen Porter said once students are registered with the SDS office, if they're familiar with ASL, they can choose to have an interpreter, or they can have a trained captionist attend classes with them to summarize or take verbatim notes during class.

As a captionist, her ultimate goal is to blend in and not draw attention to the student she's helping. There are times when she's mistaken for a student, but she said that she considers that a compliment.

Even though captionists are trained to use specific software for note-taking, it's hard for them to caption movies or video clips shown in real time, Porter said. If they're given access to the media ahead of time, it's not as hard.

Sparta sophomore Cortney Scott is hard of hearing and uses the captioning

services.

During Scott's first semester, an SDS employee recommended that she take vocational rehabilitation classes and have a captionist travel with her to all of her classes, she said.

"When I first came here, I didn't know how to react to that," she said.

Once the first day of classes arrived, Scott said she realized how overwhelming classes could be without assistance.

If a teacher lectured while walking around a class or spoke with their back turned, she couldn't read their lips and missed out on notes, Scott said.

Apart from reading lips, she uses a hearing aid during class, but at times the background noise can be overwhelming.

Scott said her captionists help to keep her motivated in class.

"The services are there," she said. "You just have to ask for help."

Cadiz senior Charles Rockhold IV was born deaf and has used both captioning services and interpreters.

Some courses that use symbols, such as math, are easier to comprehend with interpreters, but the lecture courses are easier with a captionist because there's a chance to read over the notes later, he said.

Rockhold said he appreciates having both services available because he had issues while attending public school.

"It was very, very difficult at times, because most of the time I didn't know what was going on," he said.

Scott said it helps when teachers are aware of her hearing impairment beforehand. Sometimes they think she's not as advanced due to her disability.

"Some people just don't know how to respond because it's different," she said. "I find it fascinating."

Rockhold is on the verge of graduating this spring, and he credited SDS employees for helping him through his past four academic years.

"It's a really good advantage for us to use a captionist," he said. "They helped me to get where I am now."

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COMMENTARY

Domestic partner benefits issue won't go away

What disturbs me the most about the recent 8-6 decision by the WKU Benefits Committee to deny domestic partner benefits is not the obvious bigotry that premised the group's decision. Rather, I cannot understand President Ransdell's spineless inability to take a stand on a controversial issue without first receiving political cover from another decision-making body on campus. Instead of playing the role of a leader, which he enthusiastically encourages WKU students and faculty to do, he has apparently decided to play the role of coward and stay silent about the issue.

Dr. Ransdell, allow me to inform you, and I am sure that I am not the first to do so, that this issue will not go away, no matter how much you want it to and no matter how much or how long you ignore it. The faculty and student bodies have signaled their desire for the imple-

mentation of domestic partner benefits as of late, exemplified by recent events surrounding the topic. For one, the University Senate has passed a resolution in support of these benefits in the past 12 months. Further, this measure has now come up before the Benefits Committee twice since last August. And, as I am sure you have noticed by now, or at least I hope you have, both faculty and students have constantly protested this decision and your inaction in front of Weatherby this week. Your silence will do no longer. Take your stand.

Dr. Ransdell, you champion WKU's slogan "A Leading American University With International Reach," and yet you stand by as WKU does everything but lead. As the University Senate cited in their supporting resolution, over 300 colleges and universities in the country offer these benefits to its employees. Additionally, 11 of the 19 institutions that WKU regards as "benchmark,"

along with the University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville and Northern Kentucky University, make up this statistic. Why? Because their administrations have realized, as ours has not, that to secure the best talent to fill their professorships, they must offer domestic partner benefits. These symbolize a cultured, open-minded university where scholarship can thrive and one can be secure in their identity. Moreover, these universities understand that, like WKU and contrary to what Mr. Tony Glisson stated in a recent Herald article, they are very much in competition with other universities for talented scholars.

With this in mind, I will leave you with a few questions: How can WKU lead, when it cannot even follow? How can you expect the university to adhere to its slogan, when you, our president, do not actively uphold its ideals?

This commentary doesn't necessarily represent the views of the Herald or the university.



MICAH BENNETT
Bowling Green senior

COMMENTARY

Why I'm running for Student Government Association president

If elected President of Student Government Association, I will provide every student with a lifetime supply of buffets to CiCi's pizza, a pair of Reebok Pumps, and since today is my 21st birthday, I'm bringing back dollar draft night at baseball games.

Now, if you can get your mind off my questionably facetious mention of pizza, pumps and beer, I'd like to talk about why I'm doing this. To me, being Student Government President means being the best representative for the students one can be.

In my time in SGA, I've been a voluntary member of the Legislative Research Committee where I helped revise the constitution of the organization, served on the Judicial Council as a Justice and

the Clerk, and since the fall, I have served the students by being the sole student representative on the Provost Search Committee.

During the campaign, I've been getting out to hear the thoughts and concerns of students instead of just talking all day about my platform. I'd like to discuss some of my ideas and some of the ideas that I've heard from you.

WKU is the only public state university that does not have student input on tuition rates. I'm going to ask questions and try to find the reason that Hilltoppers don't have this input, and then I will work to make sure that we get student input on tuition prices.

I won't vote for any construction project

that isn't handicap-accessible. Handicapped students, faculty and staff should be accommodated.

We have to see some change in our tailgating policy. I am the only candidate actively talking about tailgating. Many students are obviously unhappy with the new policy, and it didn't work out like the administration wanted it to.

I think that SGA and the campus as a whole have made great strides to being more sustainable, but I think we can do more. I want to reach out to the University Sustainability Committee and some of our students who are sustainability majors to hear ideas and see how we can work together to make the Hill a more sustainable place.

Domestic partner benefits is an issue that I strongly believe in and is not going to go away if I'm elected. I want to work with lead-

ers on campus who have shown support with this issue to try to make it a reality.

I live in Bowling Green. If elected, I will meet with administrators this summer to work on getting things done for the students.

I want the students to know that I am not afraid to stand up and fight for the interest of the students because that is my first priority. If there is a student reading this who has a concern they would like me to know, my email address is colton.jessie895@wku.edu.

I would be honored to be your president. And if we can accomplish most of the things I've mentioned in this article and during my campaign, I don't see any reason we can't pursue dollar draft night too.

This commentary doesn't necessarily represent the views of the Herald or the university.



COLTON JESSIE
Bowling Green Junior

Annie's OUTLOOK A cartoon strip by Annie Erskine



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SUBMISSIONS
The Herald encourages readers to write letters and commentaries on topics of public interest. Here are a few guidelines:
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2. Originality counts. Please don't submit plagiarized work.
3. For verification, letters and commentaries MUST include

your name, phone number, home town and classification or title.
4. Letters may not run in every edition due to space.
5. The Herald reserves the right to edit all letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald does NOT print libelous submissions.
6. Letters and commentaries must be received by 7 p.m. on Sunday and Wednesday.

Fraternities assist sororities with step routines

By KATHERINE WADE
diversions@chherald.com

Every year, sororities and fraternities come together to step. But they don't do it just to learn a dance.

"The best part is interacting with other groups and getting to know new people," said Rashad Strawter, a Louisville junior who helps teach and oversee the practices.

Five sororities will be competing in this year's Unity Step-Off, which takes place tonight in the Downing University Center auditorium at 7 p.m. It costs \$5 to enter the show.

Chi Omega, one of the sororities competing, has been practicing every day since spring break, said Kylie Kiesel, a Louisville sophomore who coordinated their practices.

But the team hasn't had it easy.

Half of the team quit early on, said Kiesel, leaving them with only six participants. And only days before the show, one of the members was hospitalized with pneumonia.

Louisville senior Alli Alberhasky stepped up Wednesday before the show to fill in and worked for eight hours that af-

ternoon to catch up. She said she was most looking forward to meeting new people throughout the event.

"I'm not just in it for the competition. I'm in it for the experience," she said.

Crestwood senior Claire Greenlee said she learned a valuable lesson from their practices.

"Never give up," she said. "You get frustrated, because it's so out of your comfort zone, but don't give up."

Louisville senior Rick Thompson taught step for his second year. He also teaches hip-hop in Bowling Green and said this was another opportunity for him to share his talents.

"It's important to let everybody know that anyone can dance," he said. "It's not a race thing... If you put your mind to it, everyone can do it."

The competition is judged by Greek and non-Greek judges, and the winning team gets a trophy. Each performance must be less than 10 minutes, and the teams must be made of fewer than 30 people.

Paducah senior Del Shumpert has helped teach step for three years. He said the event was a



CHRIS FRYER/HERALD

Crestwood sophomore Claire Greenlee, left, and Louisville sophomore Alli Alberhasky, both Chi Omega sorority members, pass canes while practicing their step routine in Garrett Conference Center Wednesday evening. Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity members were present to coach the Chi Omega members in preparation for the Unity Step-Off tonight. The event is hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

chance for sororities and fraternities to work together.

"It also gives organizations a chance to be more diverse," he said.

Kiesel said her team would have been lost without the help of the students who taught, but she was having fun with it.

"A lot of people doubted the idea, and I like to prove people wrong," she said. "I'm really proud of the girls for sticking with it even though it's been a new challenge."




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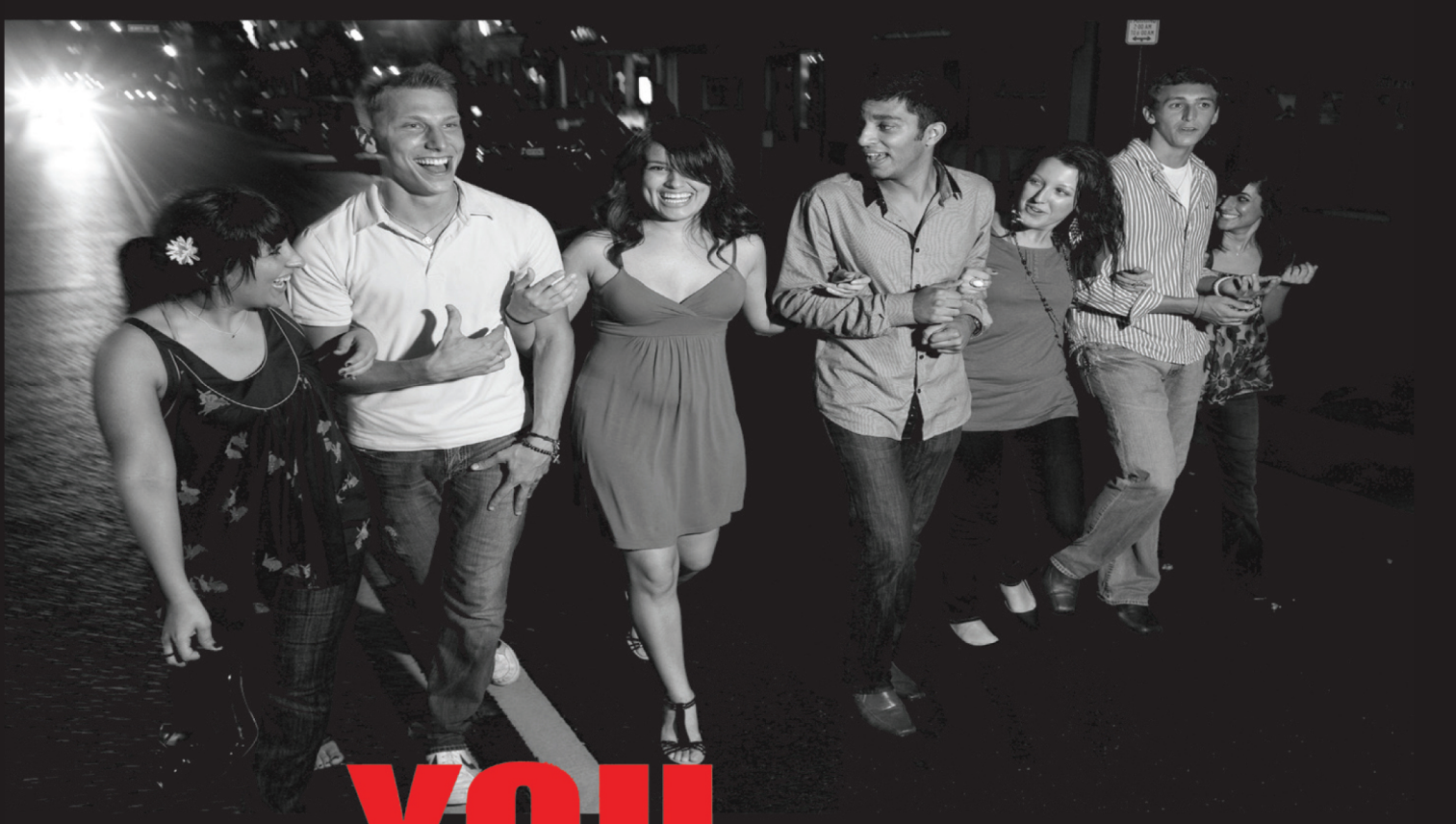
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CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Wende Mponzi, who is visiting Western from Tanzania on the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant program, said she likes the location, because it's easy for her to go to her classes or office.

"The house is so good — small and comfortable, and it has everything that I need," she said.

Barbara Burch, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said Western began purchasing Colonial Court three years ago to create an international community on campus.

There are plans to move the offices of International Student Services and Study Abroad and Global Learning to the remaining Colonial Court apartments, she said.

Once students and other residents move out in May, the buildings will be torn down, and construction will

begin and hopefully be done next summer, Burch said.

Burch said there are no plans to purchase any more buildings, and when the renovation of the apartment building in the back of Colonial Court is complete, Western will be able to host a total of 24 visiting scholars at once.

Funding for the project came largely from the Division of Extended Learning and Outreach, not from tuition or the state budget, Burch said.

Akash Patel, a graduate student from Surat, India, said although he thinks the international community is a good idea, he's sad to move out in May.

"It's good, but it's not good for us," Patel said.

Danny Mitchell and his girlfriend also live in an apartment in Colonial Court but will soon move out.

Mitchell said his girlfriend only has one semester left at Western and it will be inconvenient for them to find another place to live just for six months.



ARMANDO SANCHEZ/HERALD

Larry Caillouet, coordinator of the visiting scholars program, gives President Gary Ransdell a tour of a cottage in the newly renovated Colonial Court across the street from Southeast Hall on Wednesday. Since the new cottages will be used for visiting professors, Caillouet directed the renovations from its beginning demolition in September to its final furnishing in January.



DAVE KASNIC/HERALD

Lexington junior Tom Abell, left, slam dunks a ball after a scrimmage game as seniors Brennan Soergel, of Louisville, and Michael Chapman, of Henderson, watch on March 25 at Roland Bland Park.

Kappa Deltas make changes to basketball charity event

By MARY BARCZAK
news@chherald.com

Louisville senior Eric Carter said his fraternity, Kappa Sigma, has participated in the Kappa Delta sorority's Shamrock Shootout basketball tournament every year.

He said his fraternity enjoys having fun and playing for a good cause.

"Most of us just love to play basketball," Carter said. "But we always try to help out the community by participating in as many philanthropies as possible."

The eighth annual shootout event will be this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Diddle Arena.

The championship game will start at 4 p.m. on Sunday.

The Shamrock Shootout is a basketball tournament where teams compete in either of two brackets, said Louisville sophomore Amanda Rassiga, one of the coordinators of the event. The winners of those brackets face off to win the \$500 prize.

The event will raise money to benefit Prevent Child Abuse America and the Family Enrichment Center Inc. in Bowling Green, which work to educate and raise awareness about child abuse and neglect.

Rassiga said the KDs have made some changes to the tournament rules this year.

One of the biggest changes is that semi-professional athletes will not be allowed to play in the tournament, she said.

Some participants in prior years did not think it was fair to have semi-professional athletes participate, she said.

The KDs also changed the entry fee of the tournament this year to \$80 per team instead of the previous \$60, she said. The price was raised so teams could get free food and T-shirts.

The new fee will also help with the cost of hiring referees for the games.

Teams can only have six players this year, Rassiga said.

There are 48 teams, all of which are men's teams, participating in the event, said Caitlin Pike, vice president of public relations for Kappa Delta.

Rassiga said co-ed teams have entered the event in previous years, but it's not common to find a girl's team participating.

John Bennett, a senior from Decatur, Ala., is one of the members of "The Sirs," one of the teams that will be participating in the shootout this weekend.

He said this is the third year that the team has entered the tournament.

Bennett said his teammates enjoy the level of competition that the tournament players offer.

"You get to play with a lot of guys you wouldn't normally play with, like the basketball players," he said.

Bennett said he thinks the shootout tournament fee is cheap and affordable.

He said his team has been playing some "pick-up" games to get ready for the tournament.

FAIR

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Brad Odil, vice president of sales and station manager at WBKO, said he noticed that more students were seeking internship opportunities instead of full-time positions.

He said even if positions aren't open right now, he holds on to resumes for more than three years in case there's an opening.

"We hire a lot of students fresh out of college," Odil said.

Rebecca Tinker, associate director for employer relations at the Career Services Center, said students can make an appointment with Career Services for information on job opportunities if they were unable to attend the job fair.

Robert Unseld, associate director for data management at Career Services, said the center helps students find jobs in several ways, including hosting a job fair each spring and fall semester.

On Wednesday, Career Services allowed students to walk in and receive resume help.

Bowling Green senior Amber Scott came in that day to get help with her resume.

She's graduating in May with a degree in social work and wanted to fix her resume to be the best it could be, she said.

"I don't want my resume to be the reason I don't get a job," Scott said.

She said she's glad she came, because Career Services helped her organize her

Job interview tips

Rebecca Tinker, associate director for employer relations at the Career Services Center, said one thing is key when it comes to job interviews.

"The thing that most students don't do is prepare," Tinker said.

Here are tips for preparing for a job interview:

- Practice your interview answers with a mock interview at Career Services or online at Interview Stream, accessed through TopJobs.
- Know the job requirements and the skills you have that are related to them.
- Non-verbal interaction and etiquette count, so make sure you use them appropriately.
- Send a thank-you note to the interviewer afterwards, and call them if you haven't heard back in two weeks.

Source: Materials provided by the Career Services Center

resume better.

Walk-in resume help is something that Career Services offers every Wednesday, Tinker said.

If students are unsure about what direction they want to go into, Career Services can help them make that decision, she said.

NEWS BRIEF

Groups lobby for sexual health act

Members of Americans for Informed Democracy and members of Advocates for Youth visited Sen. Mitch McConnell's Bowling Green office on Tuesday.

They made an appearance to lobby for the Global Sexual and Reproductive Health Act of 2010.

The act proposes that the U.S. government provide \$1 billion for contraceptive awareness and availability.

Members of the group included representatives from Jamaica, Nepal, Ethiopia and Nigeria.

The students met with a representative of McConnell's office. They shared personal accounts directly linked to the

act and presented their proposal.

Matt Vaughan, a junior from Mexico, Mo., said in an e-mail that the visit was successful.

"Overall, I feel like we had a very effective meeting with McConnell's office yesterday," he said. "His staffer was really interested to learn that student voters in this area care about the issues of global sexual and reproductive health and family planning."

The act already has seven co-sponsors, and the group is hoping that McConnell will be an eighth co-sponsor.

The group will be delivering letters and petitions collected from Monday's forum to McConnell's Washington, D.C., office later this semester.

—Lindsay Kriz

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COLUMN

Finwood building a baseball powerhouse

Head Coach Chris Finwood looked more like a beach bum than a baseball coach before the Toppers’ afternoon practice last Tuesday.

His visor, sunglasses, T-shirt and shorts meant summer — and baseball — were right around the corner. The warm light streaming into Western’s new Paul Orberson Clubhouse, where Finwood stood gazing over Denes Field, agreed.

But don’t let the look fool you, because Finwood’s no bum. He’s been playing baseball in 2010 since sweatpants supplanted shorts and sweatshirts were needed over T-shirts.

It was a cold few months of preparation, but now Western’s baseball program is developing into a powerhouse.

More than a week before Major League Baseball’s April 4 Opening Day, Finwood’s Toppers have already put together a resume that’s begging for recognition. Western is undefeated in conference play, 17-5 overall and ranked No. 22 in BaseballAmerica.com’s national Top 30 poll.



JONATHAN LINTNER
Thoughts from the Jon
sports@chherald.com

The secret? Doing what Finwood said he’s been working at for more than 20 years as a college coach.

“I think baseball is a game of routines,” he said. “We just try to get our kids to be tough-minded and play extremely hard. We tell them every day that it’s a grind, and I want you guys to play harder than the team across the field. At the end of the day, we’ll count up the runs and see who won.”

Oh, and it gets better than 17-5 heading into the bulk of the Toppers’ conference slate.

Western’s schedule — designed by Finwood — is heavy on home

games in April, when the weather is nice enough to entice Topper fans into watching a game at Denes Field. That’s a Denes Field that’s in much better shape than the way Finwood found it.

“It’s a fun place for people to come watch a game now, and it wasn’t always that way,” Finwood said. “People didn’t have any place to sit, they didn’t have any place to stand, it was dirty, and now it’s a good place to come watch a college game.”

As a result, attendance at Denes Field is up from 5,000 in 2005 to 23,000 in both 2008 and 2009, according to Western’s media relations. Twelve April home games and a flawless Sun Belt Conference record should only boost that number for 2010.

After all, the fifth-year Topper head coach said everyone loves a winner.

“I’ve always been of the opinion, ‘Why can’t you have a good baseball program at a basketball or a football school?’” Finwood said.

At Western, Finwood’s baseball powerhouse is backing that up.

PAYTON

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

Working on his swing and weights have paid off with more power. After hitting only six home runs in his first three years at Western, Payton already has six this season.

But senior first baseman Jake Wells said Payton has always had that pop in his bat.

“He has just never been consistent with it, because he has been more of a ground-ball hitter,” Wells said. “This year he can do both.”

Payton injured his wrist last season in a March 22 game against Troy. Finwood said he was batting nearly .350 before the injury, but he was not the same afterwards.

“He didn’t swing the bat for us well after that, but when he’s healthy, he is very productive for us at the top of the lineup,” Finwood said.

Payton’s results have shown he’s healthy, and the second basemen said he feels the best he has since he’s been at Western.

“Injuries have stammered me for a while, but I feel good this year,” he said.

Payton was named to the Preseason All-Sun Belt Conference Team before the year, and after having a fielding percentage of at least .978 in his first three seasons at Western, he’s considered one of the best second basemen in the country.

Payton has also played shortstop this year because of sophomore Logan Robbins’ hand injury.

“He is one of the best second basemen you will find, but his versatility has helped with Logan being injured,” Finwood said.

Payton has been relied on more to be a leader as a senior this year, but Wells said Payton was a leader long before this year.

“He’s been a leader ever since he was a freshman,” Wells said. “It runs in his blood.”

Finwood said Payton is a “model player” that leads the way for other players.

“He puts his personality on this team,” Finwood said. “He is loose and has fun, but he still plays extremely hard.”

DUO

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

Gangadharan and Selvan’s doubles record currently stands at 3-2, and they’re preparing for Western’s home match Saturday against Lindsey Wilson.

Even though they’re both from India, they can only speak to each other in English.

Each speaks his state’s tongue. Selvan speaks Tamil, while Gangadharan speaks Malayalam.

But this doesn’t stop them from sharing some Indian jokes together, Selvan said.

Gangadharan, a mechanical engineering major, was born in the United Arab Emirates where tennis — as early as the age of 3 — was a big chunk of his life.

No one in Selvan’s family played tennis, but both of Gangadharan’s parents were tennis players. By 2000, his parents moved the family back to India, eventually settling in Kerala.

“My sister’s dream was to play at Wimbledon,” he said.

But in the end, she and his brother both quit tennis to concentrate on getting their doctorate degrees in math. Now his sister’s dream has become his own.

“If I get to play professionally, I want to play for India,” he said.

Selvan, a finance major from Chennai, India, began tennis after a court was built across the street from his home.

“I just joined the crowd of kids, and when they left, I was still there,” he said,



I just joined the crowd of kids, and when they left, I was still there."

—ARUL SELVAN
Sophomore

laughing.

He said he's the only Selvan to play tennis. His mother, a former volleyball player, encouraged him to continue.

But for a couple weeks, Selvan tried mechanical engineering school in India. He had no time for tennis.

“I didn’t realize how much I liked tennis,” he said.

Selvan’s parents are pleased as long as he maintains his grade point average, and tennis is still a huge part of his world.

“I feel like I have nothing to do on days where I don’t play tennis,” he said. “Here in America, the classes are pretty easy. I’m not complaining.”

Gangadharan said he feels pressured to live up to his older siblings’ academic achievements.

“It’s really hard to put one leg on each boat — to me, both are equally important,” he said. “In India, academics is more important than a sport. It all comes to what I do after I graduate. Right now, all I’m trying to do is balance.”

STREAK

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

Western’s spring break series in Florida started the winning streak, bringing home five victories with only one loss.

Antone said the team hit a point where they were tired of “just going up and down” with wins and losses.

“We are not good at sitting back and going through the motions,” Antone said. “We have to be the ones who are making things happen.”

The Lady Tops’ success is emerging at the lull of mid season, where Antone said teams generally start slowing down.

“Mid season is when you start getting tired. You haven’t really caught your second wind yet,” Antone said. “You are tired from school, softball and everything else. But the team morale has been up, and every time we step on the field, we mean business.”

Head Coach Tyra Perry said she will know a lot more in the next two weeks on where the team stands through the conference play.

“We are just playing ball and not worrying about a lot of things,” Perry said. “Good things happen for us when we just play.”

After playing nine straight non-conference teams, the Lady Tops will face their first Sun Belt Conference opponent in more than two weeks when they meet Louisiana-Lafayette at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday at the WKU Softball Complex.

McCauley said she’d like to keep the streak going. That is, after she found out about it.

“We are so focused on one game at a time and one pitch at a time that I didn’t even pay attention to the fact that we had a win streak right now,” she said.

SPRING

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS

Taggart, who doubles as Western’s offensive coordinator, said he saw the same excitement in his players that the coaches had — just with a little more on the defensive side.

“There was a lot of juice,” he said. “The defense was fired up, flying around and making plays and creating turnovers, and that’s huge. The offense didn’t like that, but it was good to see the defense do that. They were having fun, getting jacked up about making plays.”

Western hasn’t yet had a full-pad session and won’t run its first official scrimmage until April 3.

Even still, defensive coordinator Clint Bowen said the early signs are encouraging.

“We’d love to get to where we’re playing some real football with shoulder pads and pants on,” he said. “But it was good to see these kids line up and play some actual football.”



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BASEBALL

Payton's bat fuels offense

By MIKE STUNSON
sports@chherald.com

Not many were expecting Western’s offense to average 9.77 runs per game this season. Then again, not many expected senior infielder Matt Payton to step up the way he has. Payton is on pace to set new career highs in nearly every offensive category, including batting average. He came into the season with a .264 batting average and is batting .359 so far. Head Coach Chris Finwood said four years of starting have finally paid off for Payton. “He’s more experienced, and he understands more what pitches he can hit,” Finwood said. “A lot can be said of seniors. They are men now and can figure it out more.” Payton finished an 18-game hitting streak on Sunday, which was tied for the 10th-longest streak in school history. He said the improvement from his junior to senior year started in the offseason. “I worked on my swing a lot and hit the weight room hard,” Payton said.

SEE PAYTON, PAGE 7

SOFTBALL

Winning streak renewing Lady Tops' confidence

By EMILY PATTON
sports@chherald.com

The story of the Lady Toppers’ season began with frustrating losses. But after holding onto a nine-game win streak halfway through the 2010 schedule, senior Lindsay Antone said she is confident a happy ending is coming. In keeping the win streak alive, Antone said a confidence has emerged in the Lady Tops while defeating the likes of Iowa, Virginia Tech, Eastern Illinois, Tennessee State and Austin Peay. Before Western’s last nine games, the Lady Tops’ longest win streak of the season was only three games. “When you are winning, it makes you feel like people can’t touch you as long as you keep playing your game,” Antone said. “I think it definitely helps my team’s confidence when we are playing this well. It adds to our swag.” Senior Kelsey McCauley said the turning point for the team came while playing in Boca Raton, Fla., over spring break. “Our true team came out,” McCauley said. “We started playing how we should have been playing at the beginning of the season.”

SEE STREAK, PAGE 7

FOOTBALL



ARIANA MCLAUGHLIN/HERALD
Junior running back Bobby Rainey runs the ball during the first spring practice Tuesday. This was the first full team practice with Head Coach Willie Taggart

Spring forward

Tops look to maintain excitement through spring practice

By COLE CLAYBOURN
sports@chherald.com

There was plenty of excitement surrounding the Toppers’ first spring football practice on Tuesday morning, which was Head Coach Willie Taggart’s first as a head coach. So much so that Taggart had trouble sleeping the night before. “I was up at 4 a.m. saying, ‘Come on, time — you’re moving too slow,’” he said. “I got out of bed, came up here, got in my office and went over the script again. I went in and got dressed, looked in the mirror and came out in the hallway and said, ‘Damn, I look like a head coach.’” The coaching staff focused only on basics for the first day of practice, but in doing so, Western worked on many different in-game scenarios. The Toppers ran through several two-minute drills and third-down situations, mixing regular scrimmage downs in too. Taggart said he wanted to stress the importance of third downs considering how many times the team came up short there last season. Although he came away impressed by the Toppers’ enthusiasm, Taggart said the key for the team will be to keep the excitement going throughout the duration of spring practice. “There was a lot of energy, just like the first day usually has,” he said. “But guys were running around — that’s how we want it to be.”

The energy didn’t stop with Taggart, as other coaches shared the same thoughts. Quarterbacks coach and passing game coordinator Mike Sanford said there was definitely a new excitement around practice among players and coaches after a winter of workouts and running. Offensive centers and guards coach Walter Wells, one of two coaches returning from last year’s staff, said there’s always excitement when a new season starts — especially after so many changes. “Any time a new season comes around, you’re going to have new energy and new excitement because guys are getting new opportunities,” he said. “Obviously with coach Taggart coming in, he’s bringing a new energy and excitement to some of the guys with the opportunity to compete.” Sanford said the coaches are going to do all they can to keep the enthusiasm going, as Western will participate in 12 more practices starting with Friday afternoon’s session before finishing with the spring game. “The challenge will be if we can match that energy in practice 13 down the road,” he said. “I think we will, because I know for a fact that this coaching staff is going to keep its energy up.”

SEE SPRING, PAGE 7

TENNIS

Indian duo finds time to multitask



LANCE BOOTH/HERALD
Priyank Gangadharan, a sophomore from Calicut, India, left, and Arul Selvan, a sophomore from Chennai, India, both came to Western to play tennis. “You always try to get better,” Selvan said about tennis.

By TABITHA WAGGONER
sports@chherald.com

In India, sophomores Priyank Gangadharan and Arul Selvan had no time to combine academics and tennis. Then the pair was offered a scholarship by Head Coach Jeff True, and they journeyed some 9,000 miles to play tennis at Western. “I didn’t really know about Western,” Selvan said. “To be honest, I never even thought I’d be coming here,” Gangadharan said. True was informed about the players, who didn’t know each other well at the time, by a fellow tennis coach with overseas recruiting expertise. Selvan said he doesn’t believe that destiny chooses a person but that a person chooses his own destiny. “But some things click, and some things don’t,” he said. This time, something clicked, and the duo chose the same path. The two didn’t decide to go to West-

ern together — it just ended up that way, Selvan said. Five months later, they were on the Hill. Selvan described it as “the most hectic week of my entire life.” Previously only acquaintances who played each other in practice matches, the two became good friends and doubles partners. True said the players have demonstrated their value early in their tennis careers at Western. “First of all, they’re very good students,” he said. “They’re ‘A’ students, they’ve both had winning records, they bring a lot of diversity to the team, and they’ve won several matches for us.” They’re not always on the winning side. Tuesday the pair lost their doubles at Murray State. “Sometimes you’re not even happy when you win,” Gangadharan said. “Sometimes you’re happy when you lose, because you played well.”

SEE DUO, PAGE 7